



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

AND RESEARCH NOTES

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	TITLE: 2012 CWD Surveillance & Monitoring Summary	

Abstract: CWD has been monitored in Indiana since 2002 via two methods: active and targeted surveillance. In 2012, IDNR collected 1,031 samples from deer, and CWD was not detected in any sample. Since 2002, over 15,800 samples have been collected in Indiana with none testing positive for CWD.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is one of a group of diseases called Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies and is a variant of scrapie in sheep and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. The agents of CWD are called prions which are abnormal, protease-resistant forms of cellular proteins normally synthesized in the central nervous system and lymphoid tissues. Prions that cause CWD are highly resistant to heat or disinfectant (Davidson 2006). No study has ever proven that CWD is transmissible to humans.

CWD has been reported in 22 states, including Wisconsin, Illinois, and most recently, Pennsylvania. In 2002, Indiana initiated a monitoring program to detect the presence of CWD, which focused on removing and testing tissue samples from the obex (brainstem) or the retropharyngeal gland of random hunter harvested and road-killed deer throughout the state, deemed active surveillance. Tissue samples from outwardly noticeable sick deer have also been tested, named targeted surveillance. This monitoring continues today, as well as testing random samples of road killed deer which was instituted in 2007.

During the 2012 calendar year, 1,031 usable retropharyngeal glands were collected and tested through the active surveillance program (hunter harvested and road-kill deer). An additional 6 samples were collected and tested from deer through the targeted surveillance program. Analyses on all samples have been completed, with none of the samples detecting the presence of CWD prions (Table 1). Since monitoring began in 2002, over 15,800 samples have been collected by the DNR with no sample testing positive for CWD prions.

Literature Cited:

Davidson, W. R., ed. 2006. Field Manual of Wildlife Diseases in the Southeastern United States, Third Edition. Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, Athens, GA. 448pp.



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Table 1. CWD samples per county collected during Indiana's 2012 monitoring period.

County	Samples collected through active surveillance	Samples collected through targeted surveillance
Allen	2	0
Bartholomew	8	0
Benton	1	0
Boone	4	0
Brown	12	1
Carroll	4	0
Cass	12	0
Clark	6	0
Clay	7	0
Clinton	2	0
Daviess	27	0
Dearborn	7	0
Decatur	4	1
Dekalb	5	0
Delaware	4	0
Dubois	11	0
Elkhart	4	0
Fayette	8	0
Fountain	1	0
Franklin	22	0
Fulton	8	0
Gibson	12	0
Grant	3	0
Greene	10	0
Hancock	1	0
Henry	7	0
Howard	5	0
Huntington	17	0
Jackson	60	1
Jasper	22	0
Jefferson	13	1
Jennings	60	0
Johnson	5	0
Knox	24	0
Kosciusko	25	0
LaGrange	23	0
Lake	8	0
LaPorte	24	0
Lawrence	29	1
Madison	1	0
Marshall	6	0

County	Samples collected through active surveillance	Samples collected through targeted surveillance
Martin	14	0
Miami	20	0
Monroe	23	0
Montgomery	15	0
Morgan	15	0
Newton	18	0
Noble	21	0
Ohio	2	0
Orange	25	0
Owen	14	0
Parke	17	0
Perry	6	0
Pike	33	1
Porter	9	0
Posey	11	0
Pulaski	43	0
Putnam	10	0
Randolph	1	0
Ripley	3	0
Rush	5	0
Saint Joseph	3	0
Scott	13	0
Shelby	9	0
Spencer	15	0
Starke	27	0
Steuben	10	0
Sullivan	22	0
Switzerland	1	0
Tippecanoe	13	0
Tipton	2	0
Union	2	0
Vermillion	2	0
Vigo	9	0
Wabash	7	0
Warren	3	0
Warrick	21	0
Washington	18	0
Wells	2	0
White	7	0
Whitley	19	0
Unknown	7	0

Total: 1,037